

Happening's In the Office of Attorney General Steve Carter

June 1, 2007

Consumer Alerts

Carter announces that More Than 10,000 Indiana Consumers to be Offered Refunds by a Florida Company for 'Cramming'

Approximately 10,000 Hoosiers will have an opportunity to receive a refund from Email Discount Network (EDN), a company accused of placing unauthorized charges and fees on consumers' phone bills without authorization announced Attorney General Steve Carter today.

Click <u>here</u> to read the news release.

"This was a classic case of 'cramming' that impacted people across the country," Carter said. "We are putting the word out to Indiana consumers who may have been fraudulently charged or whose cancellation notices to the company were not honored."

Choicepoint will Take Measures to Safeguard Publicly Available Personal Information under an Agreement Reached with Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter and 43 Other States

Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter, along with the attorneys general of 43 other states, have announced a settlement with ChoicePoint to resolve allegations that the company failed to adequately maintain the privacy and security of consumers' personally identifiable information in its control.

ChoicePoint is a provider of identification and credential verification services to businesses, government and non-profit organizations. ChoicePoint, using the California breach notification law as a guide, mailed more than 145,000 notices to consumers across the country whose information may have been viewed or acquired, 2,300 Indiana residents were affected.

As part of the settlement with the state attorneys general, ChoicePoint will make ongoing changes in the way that the company credentials new customers who have access to personally identifiable information.

Click <u>here</u> to read the story from the *Indianapolis Star*. Click <u>here</u> to read the full news release.

AG Carter and County Recorders across the State Warn Consumers to Check with their local county recorder before using commercial deed service

Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter and County Recorders across the state have issued an alert to consumers wishing to obtain a copy of the deed to their home.

"Even without paying an outside service, you can get your property deed for as low as a few dollars. Your county recorder is here to provide this service at a minimal cost and is easy to find. If you get a solicitation, don't think that your property deed is in jeopardy."

Earlier this spring, counties across Indiana became aware of a business that distributed a mass mailing within of-fering to sell new homeowners copies of the deed to their homes at a cost of \$59.50. That same document, if ob-tained directly from a county recorder, often costs the consumer as little as \$1-\$2. Once a property owner pays the fee, the company, National Deed Service, sends a blanket request for those deeds to the appropriate county recorder's office for taxpayer-paid staff to look up and mail back to the company.

Click here to read the full news release.